FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, July 5, 2006

FIRST LADY MARSHA BARBOUR RECUPERATING AT HOME

(Jackson, Mississippi) – First Lady Marsha Barbour, who underwent major spinal surgery at a California hospital on June 27, has returned to Mississippi and is recuperating at the Governor's Mansion after staying a few days at a Jackson area hospital.

Mrs. Barbour, accompanied by Gov. Haley Barbour, returned to Mississippi last Saturday and was admitted to River Oaks Hospital for follow-on treatment and observation. She was released from River Oaks today.

The six-hour surgery was a revision of surgery Mrs. Barbour had in 1996 and was done by the same team at the University of California-San Francisco Medical Center where the original surgery was performed. While she faces a long recuperative period, a full recovery is expected.

Mrs. Barbour said she is deeply appreciative of the prayers and thoughtful expressions of support by so many Mississippians. Governor Barbour announced that by noon on Thursday a special space to "Send get well wishes to First Lady Marsha Barbour" will be set up on the Governor's Web site, www.governorbarbour.com.

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First Lady Marsha Barbour Has Spinal Surgery

First Lady Marsha Barbour underwent major spinal surgery today in what physicians described as a revision of surgery she had in 1996. The surgery was done by the same team at a medical center in California where the original surgery was performed.

Governor Haley Barbour, who is with his wife of 34 years, said she tolerated the surgery well. Due to the nature of the surgery, Mrs. Barbour faces a long recuperative period; a full recovery is expected. A date for her release from the hospital has not yet been set, but Governor Barbour said he and the First Lady will return to Mississippi as soon as possible.